



State of Maine
Board of Corrections

State House Station #111
Augusta, ME 04333-0111



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Kate Snyder

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FOCUS GROUPS:

Budget
Education
Inventory of Needs
Information Technology
Medical/ Pharmacy
Mental Health/Substance
Abuse
Pretrial/Diversion/Reentry
Transportation
Victim Services

To: Board of Corrections

From: Kate Snyder

Date: September 9, 2011

Re: Outstanding Legislative Issues for the Board of Corrections

As discussed at the Board of Corrections Retreat on August 25, 2011, there are several issues that will require Board attention and response in the near future.

1) **LD 1438 – An Act to Require Videoconferencing for Civil and Criminal Proceedings for Inmates.**

Although the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety unanimously voted ought not to pass LD 1438, the co-chairs of the Committee have, in a letter dated June 29, 2011, asked the State Court Administrator and the Director of Court Information (with a cc: to the Board of Corrections) to “continue to work with the numerous stakeholders to further explore [issues related to the implementation of system-wider changes] and develop refined recommendations to move us further toward uniform and consistent use of videoconferencing technology in all the courtrooms in the State”. In an effort to respond to this charge, the Administrative Office of the Courts has called a meeting at the Maine Judicial Center at 6 Stone Street in Augusta on October 5, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Chris Oberg, Chair of the Board of Corrections’ Information Technology Focus Group will be attending this meeting.

Any interested Board members are welcome.

2) **LD 1542 – An Act to Require All Correctional Facilities in the State to Participate in the Unified Inmate Transportation System.**

Although the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety unanimously voted ought not to pass LD 1542, the co-chairs of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety has, in a letter dated June 29, 2011, strongly encouraged the Board of Corrections and its Transportation Focus Group to “continue to work with the Department of Corrections and the county jails to find methods to improve upon the coordinated system”. “The Committee asks that the Board of Corrections specifically address the status of the coordinated transportation efforts when the Board makes it annual report to us at the beginning of the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.”

- 3) **Somerset County Taxpayer CAP in support of the county correctional system.**
Somerset will meet with the Board to review the FY 2012 actuals/projections and to review and work together on a legislative solution to Somerset's CAP.

- 4) **Public Law, Chapter 431 (LD 82) –Amended the Laws Governing County Jail Budgeting for York County.**
This new law reduces the tax assessment collected in support of county correctional services in York County from \$8,667,248 to \$8,386,815, effective July 1, 2013; impacting the FY 2014 – FY 2015 biennial budget development process.